



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**EL PASO BORDER PATROL AGENT ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH
CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT ALIEN SMUGGLING AND MONEY LAUNDERING**

United States Attorney Johnny Sutton; Special Agent in Charge James E. Smith, Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General; Special Agent in Charge Roberto G. Medina, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Investigations; Chief Patrol Agent Victor M. Manjarrez, Jr., U.S. Customs and Border Protection; and Special Agent in Charge David Cuthbertson, Federal Bureau of Investigation announced that U.S. Border Patrol agent Jesus Miguel Huizar and two Mexican nationals have been arrested and charged with conspiracy to commit alien smuggling.

Yesterday, federal agents arrested Huizar, age 28, of El Paso, TX, and Chihuahua, Mexico residents Emeterio Sigala-Favela, age 37, and Luis Carlos Chacon-Rubio, age 32. **They are scheduled to have their initial appearance at 3:00pm today in El Paso before United States Magistrate Judge Norbert Garney.**

According to the indictment, all three defendants conspired together from January 2005 to present to smuggle over 100 illegal aliens into the United States from Mexico. Specifically, Huizar was paid a portion of the smuggling fees to facilitate the transportation of undocumented aliens through the interior Border Patrol checkpoints in New Mexico. The indictment also charges Huizar with one count of conspiracy to commit money laundering. Finally, the indictment seeks the criminal forfeiture of a safe house (owned by Huizar) in El Paso located at 9072 Geranium and a monetary judgement in the amount of \$500,000—the amount of proceeds derived from the alleged criminal activity.

Upon conviction, Huizar faces up to 30 years in federal prison; Sigala-Favela and Chacon-Rubio each face up to ten years in federal prison.

This case was investigated by the Department of Homeland Security Office of Inspector General, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Office of Investigations, U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Assistant United States Attorney Juanita Fielden is prosecuting this case on behalf of the Government.

An indictment a formal accusation of criminal conduct, not evidence of guilt. The defendant is presumed innocent unless and until convicted through due process of law.

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